

# Media Statement



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**TO : ALL MEDIA**

**DATE : 13 OCTOBER 2017**

**RE : FORMER POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED FOR FRAUD**

On 29 September 2017, the Groblersdal Regional Court sentenced a former police officer stationed at Bela-Bela police station, Jacob Fancy Motau (44) to an effective imprisonment term of 17 years for corruption, fraud involving an amount of R25 000 and impersonating a police officer

Evidence presented in court was that, Motau after being dismissed from the police service, approached the complainant who was a manager of an illegal gambling shop and pretended to be the new investigating officer of the two criminal cases where the said complainant was charged for illegal gambling. Motau told the complainant that he could approach the prosecutor at Bela-Bela Magistrate's Court and request for the two cases to be finally withdrawn in exchange for 'cool drink'. Motau offered also to supply the complainant with information every time the Gambling Board is planning to conduct raids in Bela Bela so that the complainant could avoid being arrested in exchange for R7 000 monthly payments. The whole conversation was recorded by cellular phone voice recorder.

During a 252(A) operation authorized by the Director of Public Prosecutions in North Gauteng, the said R7 000 was found in possession of the accused and he was duly arrested.

The Senior State Advocate, Andrew Mphaga, representing the state, learned about a similar case involving a former police officer Wallied Adams which was handled in Cape Town by his colleague Adv Razia Valley-Omar where the accused was sentenced to five years imprisonment for extortion and corruption involving an amount of R1500 and the sentence was confirmed on appeal.

Advocate Mphaga requested for this judgement and referred to the judgement to argue for a heavy sentence. The court agreed with the submission and sentenced the accused to 17 years imprisonment taking into account the fact that corruption by the police in Bela-Bela was very prevalent and the accused showed no remorse for his actions.

**Kind Regards,**

**Mashudu Malabi -Dzhang**

**Regional Spokesperson**

**Limpopo DPP**

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